Paul and Gary CD1462 2/14/70 HW

Jean Daniel

To Paul is attached a copy of CD1462, which may be only the first page of that CD, from the GAL-State files. I got it yesterday, together with a few on Alba, because they will make a few while you wait. If Gary should want a copy, please make it for him. This should be followed further for narrow reasons of my own, but in order not to attract interest in my interest and because it take so interminably long for my orders to get filled, I will not attempt it by mail. I will examine this file when next I am at the Archives. And I note Paul has 5 pages from it. If they are relevant to what follows, I'd like a copy. Sorry, what Paul has is 1572. Nothing listed for 1462. Anyway, I want to make this note for the future, so I send you both a copy and if I want Paul to carry it further I will ask him.

You both know that before I printed the general-distribution edition of WW I had researched and was read to write what I'd planned as my second book, TIGER TO RIDE. I laid it aside and did WWII and what follows because I believed the doctrine of the works following it were not conducive to establishment of the truth and because I decided that more fact of the assassination itself was of higher priority. Ted. Kupferman told me years ago that if available then TIGER could sell in the hundreds of thousands. I am still hopeful it can be a successful, commercial book. So, I have a separate file on TIGER. It takes up an entire file drawer, and this is exclusive of a stack of unclassifie notes perhaps a foot high, stored elsewhere, and a number of books from which I'll quote at length . I have in it a Jean Daniel file, for which, after he copies, if he desires, I'd appreciate it if Paul could return this copy.

In any genuine GAL-State file, all thematerial attached to this letter from Frank to Slawson should have been included. None of it is. Without knowledge of Daniel's writing, there seems to be no significance in its omission. I had loaned my copies of the article refered to and it had not been returned, so I tried to get a copy from Daniel, who undoubtedly had more, and got no response. He is the foreign editor of a French paper, or was then, and I had a correspondent mutual friend ask him. He is significant for a number of reasons:

He was with Castro when Castro learned of the assassination;

He was the last foreign correspondent, if not thelast correspondent, to see JFK;

JFK did give him an unofficial mission, and asked him to return for another private meeting after he saw Castro.

Rather than being anti-JFK, before the assassination, Castro had told Daniel that, with the changes in his policies, JFK was becoming a great President and might go down in history as another Washington or Lincoln. This is hardly consistent with knocking him off.

Each of the four items sent the Commission by State is interesting. The first, the single Daniel New Republic article of 12/14/63, details the foregoing. However, it is but a single one of the four articles Daniel wrote for the New Republic at that time and dealing with this. I got these at the New Republic. I wonder why State sent only this one, when it is part of a series on the same subject. And, without doubt, his writing for his own paper was more extensive. No reference to that. 2 is copies of Castro's speeches of "the relevant period". We know one reason these may not be in this file (O in NO). I have no recollection of what could be in 3, relevant speeches by US Govt officials. Nor do I recall Slawson's memo of 8/30/64, which I did not see in this file. The first paragraph says it asked "additional information" on the Daniel article (which is not the same as copies of the article. If this letter is an accurate reflection of the response, then State was careful not to commit itself, not to express any opinion, make any interpretation, give any analysis. Instead it fed limited raw material-and not how late the date, Spetember 3, and the lateness of the inquiry, 8/30, when the Report had been written for some time.

Should you be interested in these articles, I will eldn them to you. It doubt if they can be replaced today, except by xeroxing.

This one thing has been a special interest with me for some time. I'd appreciate your not calling anyone's attention to it because I want to hold it and use it in the larger context of TIGER. It is the kind of thing that can attract minor attention by itself while accomplishing nothing.

When I write to ask for those things noted in last night's memo on the CIA-State file, I'll include the Slawson memo, and I'll keep you posted. Meanwhile, if either of you has anything relevant, I'd like to know about it. Because of this offhand handling, I am establishing a second Jean Daniel file with my Commission work. In my separate TIGER file I also have newspaper clippings the nature and content of which are not clear in my mind. I know they relate to his being an "unofficial ambassador". That was a very important function, and that was an era in which reporters were, importantly, unofficial ambassadors. There will be a number so handled in TIGER.

HW